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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/645,875	08/25/2000	Yoshikatsu Uetake	OKI 260	4073

23995 7590 01/18/2005

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EXAMINER	
HAN, CLEMENCE S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2665	

DATE MAILED: 01/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/645,875	UETAKE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Clemence Han	2665	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 May 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-8* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-8* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *05 May 2004* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Responsive to amendment received on May 5, 2004, amended claim 1-8 are entered as requested.

Drawings

2. Figure 5 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.121(d)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The claim 4 contains the limitation of read-out selection means for selecting the connection information from one of the switching memory means and the information receiving means (Page 6 Line 10-12 of Amendment). The examiner could not find the support for this limitation in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claim 1-3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Murata et al. (US 4,759,010).

Regarding to claim 1, Masuda teaches A digital switching system, comprising: multiplexing means 1 for multiplexing time slots from a first plurality

of circuits (Column 1 Line 15-18); switching memory 20 means for storing and switching data of the time slots from the multiplexing means, for one frame period; switching control means 10 including a switching correspondence means 10 for directing interchange of the time slots stored in the switching memory means 20 in response to a switching request (write control signal 306) from a network received through an upper layer controller (Column 1 Line 26-30); and demultiplexing means 2 for demultiplexing into a second plurality of circuits (Column 1 Line 18-22), time slot data read out of the switching memory means 20 using as addresses data from the switching correspondence means 10 (Column 1 Line 26-30), the switching correspondence means 10 comprising: information receiving means 112, 113 for receiving connection information (control data D) from the upper layer controller 40 (Column 6 Line 45-49); read-out controlling means for storing the connection information (control data D) corresponding to before or after switching, received through the information receiving means 112, 113, to addresses (address signal ADR) designated by the connection information in one of a first memory means 12 and a second memory means 13 (Column 5 Line 31-34), and for sequentially reading out the stored connection information in read-out order of the switching memory means 20 (Column 6 Line 34-37); network switching control means 30 for generating a switching signal (WS and SE in Column 5 Line 40-41)

in synchronization with an internal timing standard (Column 4 Line 38-39) in response to the switching request (write control signal 306) provided by the upper layer controller 40; and read-out selection means 117 for selecting read-out from one of the first memory means 12 and the second memory means 13 of the read-out controlling means in response to the switching signal provided by the network switching control means (Column 5 Line 67 – Column 6 Line 2).

Regarding to claim 2, Masuda teaches wherein with respect to the read-out controlling means, the first memory means 12 and the second memory means 13 are capable of independently and simultaneously writing and reading (Column 5 Line 51-54 and Column 5 Line 67 – Column 6 Line 2).

Regarding to claim 3, Masuda teaches wherein the network switching control means 30 generates the switching signal to coincide with a beginning of a frame (Column 5 Line 1-6).

Regarding to claim 5, Masuda teaches a method of switching data in a digital switching system, comprising: a multiplexing step of multiplexing time slots from a first plurality of circuits (Column 1 Line 15-18); a writing step of sequentially writing into a switching memory 20 data of the time slots multiplexed by the multiplexing step (Column 1 Line 15-18); a data interchange step comprising receiving connection information (control data D) from an upper layer

controller 40, corresponding to before and after switching (Column 6 Line 45-49), writing the connection information (control data D) in a control memory 12, 13 at addresses (address signal ADR) designated by the connection information (Column 5 Line 31-34), sequentially reading out the connection information stored in the control memory 12, 13 as read-out order for the multiplexed time slot data written in the switching memory 20 (Column 6 Line 34-37), in synchronization with an internal timing standard (Column 4 Line 38-39) in response to a switching directive (write control signal 306) from the upper layer controller 40, so as to change accommodation destinations of the multiplexed time slot data (Column 1 Line 26-30); and a demultiplexing step of demultiplexing the data from the data interchange step into a second plurality of circuits (Column 1 Line 18-22).

Regarding to claim 6, Masuda teaches wherein the data interchange step comprises: an information receiving step of receiving the connection information (control data D) from the upper layer controller 40 before switching, and the same after switching, respectively (Column 6 Line 45-49); an information input/output step of storing the connection information (control data D) received in the information receiving step (Column 5 Line 31-34), and reading out the connection information received before and after switching (Column 6 Line 34-37); a switching signal generation step of generating a switching signal (WS and SE in

Column 5 Line 40-41) for switching in synchronization with the timing (Column 4 Line 38-39) in response to the switching directive (write control signal 306) of the connection information received from the upper layer controller 40; a selection step of selecting the connection information after switching all of the connection information as read out in the information input/output step in response to the switching signal generated (Column 5 Line 67 – Column 6 Line 2); and a read-out step of reading out the multiplexed data as written in the writing step on the basis of the connection information selected in the selection step (Column 1 Line 18-30).

Regarding to claim 7, Masuda teaches wherein the data interchange step comprises: an information receiving step of receiving the connection information (control data D) supplied from the upper layer controller 40 before switching, and the same after switching, respectively (Column 6 Line 45-49); an information writing step of writing the connection information (control data D) for use after switching all of the connection information received in the information receiving step (Column 5 Line 31-34), when a switching request (write control signal 306) is delivered from the side of the upper layer 40; a switching signal generation step of generating a switching signal (WS and SE in Column 5 Line 40-41) for switching in synchronization with the timing (Column 4 Line 38-39) in response to the switching directive (write control signal 306) of the connection information

received from the upper layer controller 40; a copying step of reading out the connection information (control data D) after switching on a rising edge of the switching signal generated in the switching signal generation step as the connection information before switching (Column 5 Line 25-33); a read-out step of storing the connection information (control data D) as read out in the copying step (Column 5 Line 31-34), and reading out the multiplexed data as written in the writing step on the basis of the connection information (Column 1 Line 18-30); and a selection step of selecting the connection information (control data D) in response to a fall of the switching signal generated (Column 5 Line 67 – Column 6 Line 2).

Regarding to claim 8, Masuda teaches wherein the copying step reads out addresses and data contained in the connection information (control data D) written in the information writing step, in increasing address order, supplying the same to the read-out step, and the read-out step writes data of connection information, as supplied, to an address (address signal ADR) indicated by the connection information, as supplied, while reading out the data written in increasing address order; and using the data as read-out addresses for the data of the time slots written in the writing step (Column 1 Line 26-30).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to the invention in general.

U.S. Patent 5,467,340 to Umezu

U.S. Patent 5,353,281 to Kuwahara et al.

U.S. Patent 5,155,728 to Takeuchi et al.

U.S. Patent 4,656,625 to Nojiri et al.

U.S. Patent 4,512,014 to Binz et al.

U.S. Patent 5,430,718 to Peterson

U.S. Patent 4,972,407 to Kawai

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clemence Han whose telephone number is (571) 272-3158. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C. H.

Clemence Han
Examiner
Art Unit 2665

ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER